

STATEMENT NUMBER A3

GAS LANE COMMITTEE SPEECH – CLLR YASSIN MOHAMUD

Good afternoon, Chair, and good afternoon committee members.

I am Councillor Yassin Mohamud, the ward councillor for Lawrence Hill.

This site and this application has huge potential to help revitalise an area which has been hugely under used and neglected and makes good use of an unsightly brownfield site in a sustainable location.

The location on Gas Lane is adjacent to the proposed major new campus development plans from the University of Bristol and is well suited to providing high quality student accommodation to meet this growing demand.

This would result in positive activity in the local area and bring a wide range of social and economic benefits for local businesses and residents. Enhancements to the Dings Tunnel and now potentially also to the Gas Lane railway tunnel are particularly welcomed.

The revisions have generated very little interest, and notably for this part of Bristol, no objections. I'm confident that residents and local businesses are supportive of the scheme and I'm sure that the new student population would enhance the vitality and viability of this area.

I am happy to see the applicant has continued to engage with the local community and worked closely with Council Officers over the last 3 years to overcome as many of their concerns as possible.

It is also welcome to see the numerous sustainability measures proposed with the scheme being car free, highly energy efficient, benefiting from the district heating network and achieving the BREEAM "Excellent" standard.

I am strongly in support of this application, and I hope you will also support this scheme.

Thank you.